

Message Text

SECRET

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10

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-02 EB-03 TRSE-00 COME-00 RSR-01 /048 W
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R 210810 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6950

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

S E C R E T KUWAIT 2160

LIMDIS

FROM QUINLAN MUSCAT

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EIND MU

SUBJ: REPORTED TERMINATION R. B. ANDERSON ARRANGEMENT

REF: STATE 102238

1. AMERICAN FIRMS WHOM ROBERT B. ANDERSON IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BROUGHT INTO OMAN ARE MARDELA, FMC, MARSHALL (MINERALS EXPLORATION), DEL MONTE, AND SUN OIL. MARDELA HAS JUST SIGNED FOLLOW- UP CONTRACT; WE HAVE HEARD NO RECENT CRGTICISM OF OTHERS; AND DO NOT BELIEVE R. B. ANDERSON WITHDRAWAL WILL HAVE ANY EFFECT ON ANY OF ABOVE. THESE AND OTHER COMMERCIAL AGREEMENTS HAVE RECENTLY BEEN VETTED BY YOUNG LAWYER FROM SPEAR AND HILL FIRM OF NEW YORK WHICH IS O WELL REGARDED BY ECONOMIC ADVISER JOHN TOWNSEND. OIL ADVISER STRIBLING SNODGRASS, WHO WAS RECOMMENDED BY ANDERSON, WILL NOT BE AFFECTED.

2. WHEN NEWS BREAKS OF ANDERSON' S WITHDRAWAL WE MAY ANTICIPATE SPECULATION ON STATUS OF SAUDI BUSINESSMAN/ FOREIGN POLICY ADVISER GHASSAN SHAKIR, WHO IS GENERALLY DEXCRIBED BY LOCAL BRITISH AS ANDERSON PARTNER. SHAKIR HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN LESS
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ACTIVE LOCALLY SINCE DEPARTURE OF HIS PROTEGE, ECONOMIC PLANNER
RIYADH RAIS. OVERALL, HOWEVER, BRITISH BLESSINGS MAY BE MIXED,
BECAUSE BRITISH CEMENTATION COMPANY, FOR WHICH SHAKIR IS AGENT,
IS RUMORED TO HAVE LOST SULTAN' S FAVOR IN PAST MONTHS.

3. BEST PRELIMINARY GUESTIMATE IS THAT SUSPICION WHICH HAS
CLOUDED LOCAL AMERICAN/ BRITISH RELATIONS WILL BE RELIEVED AT
NO COST TO AMERICAN COMMERCIAL POSITION.
STOLTZFUS

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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